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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/840,860	04/25/2001	Akihide Ito	83118-0002	4905

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EXAMINER

FILIPCZYK, MARCIN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2161

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/840,860

Applicant(s)

ITO ET AL.

Examiner

Marc R Filipczyk

Art Unit

2161

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/24/01</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is in response to application filed on April 25, 2001 wherein claims 1-36 are presented for examination.

Priority

Claims Priority from Provisional Application 60/202,181, filed on May 5, 2000.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-36 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claims 1, 12, 23 and 35, the term “schemata” is interpreted and defined by the examiner to be equivalent to “schema”.

Further regarding claim 1, the preamble, “system” should be replaced with “computer system” to clarify the subject matter of the claim is a computer system.

Regarding claims 7 and 14, the claims need to end with a period.

Further regarding claim 12, the preamble, “method” should be replaced with “computer implemented method” to clarify the method features in the claim are performed by a computer.

Regarding claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-34 and 36 depend from claims 1, 12, 23 and 35 respectively, and therefore contain the informalities of claims 1, 12, 23 and 35.

Appropriate corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2161

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen (U.S.

Patent No. 6,411,961).

Regarding claim 1, Chen discloses a computer system, apparatus, program and method for using a metadata to flexibly analyze data stored in a source databases comprising: (fig. 1, items 101 and *metadata* 105; [note, fig. 1, metadata is missing a label 105], see also abstract)

the metadata containing technical information and business model information and existing independently of schemata of the source databases and destination databases; (fig. 3A items 202 and 204, and col. 7, lines 15-46) and,

a metadata management system comprising a mapping means capable of mapping schemata of the source databases to dimensions and measures in the metadata based on the technical information (fig. 1, item 106 and related text),

a modeling means capable of manipulating the business model information (fig. 1, item 109 and fig. 6B), and

loading means capable of loading the data stored in the source databases into destination databases for analyses based on the technical information and business model information stored in the metadata (fig. 1, item 112, fig. 7B, item 626 and col. 5, lines 48-52).

Regarding claim 2, Chen discloses updating destination databases (fig. 7B, item 627 and related text).

Regarding claims 3-5, Chen discloses source databases and destination databases are relational database, a flat file, a spreadsheet a file created by a third party application and multi-dimensional (col. 5, lines 30-35 and 39-43).

Regarding claim 6, Chen discloses modeling means includes customization means allowing a user to customize a hierarchical tree structure of dimensions or to modify an existing hierarchy (fig. 5, item 409).

Regarding claim 7, Chen discloses ranking means allowing a user to rank one or more dimensions based on their value (fig. 3B, item 213).

Regarding claim 8, Chen discloses time-axis customization means allowing a user to specify a structure of a time-axis (fig. 7B, *scheduler* 627).

Regarding claim 9, Chen discloses loading means generates one program based on metadata (fig. 7B, item 624 and col. 14, lines 32-42).

Regarding claim 10, Chen discloses loading means uses a program (col. 12, lines 2-5).

Regarding claim 11, Chen discloses aggregating data loaded into destination databases based on metadata (fig. 3A, item 203).

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Regarding method claims 12-22, apparatus claims 23-34 and article claims 35 and 36, all of the features have been noted in the rejected system claims 1-11.

Conclusion

To expedite the process of examination Examiner requests that all future correspondences in regard to overcoming prior art rejections or other issues (e.g. amendments, 35 U.S.C. 112, objections and the like) set forth by the Examiner that Applicants provide and link to the most specific page and line numbers of the disclosure where the best support is found (see 35 U.S.C. 132).

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following prior art demonstrates the state of art with respect to analyzing databases using metadata.

U.S. Patent No. 6,434,557 of Egilsson et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,505,205 of Kothuri et al.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc R Filipczyk whose telephone number is (571) 272-4019. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on (571) 272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2161

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MF
March 3, 2005


FRANTZ COBY
PRIMARY EXAMINER